

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /024 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:PDENNIS:LM

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S/S:WHLUERS

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PA, S/S, S/PRS, NSCE

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O 122343Z MAR 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 055950

TOSEC 395

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT CARL ROWAN COLUMN, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, WASHSTAR HEADLINED "A NEW AFRICAN POLICY?".
2. AT THE EMBASSY OF IRAN THE OTHER EVENING I SAT DOWN TO DINNER WITH THE UNEASY REALIZATION THAT ONLY THE DAINTY WIFE OF REP. JAMES SYMINGTON SEPARATED ME FROM HENRY KISSINGER.
3. NOT MUCH PROTECTION, CONSIDERING THAT I HAD JUST WRITTEN A COLUMN AND DONE A RADIO-TV COMMENTARY SHARPLY CRITICAL OF KISSINGER.
4. KISSINGER UPBRAIDED ME FOR CRITICIZING HIS INSISTENCE ON MAKING NATHANIEL DAVIS HEAD OF AFRICAN POLICY--OVER THE OBJECTIONS OF ABOUT EVERY BLACK AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER. KISSINGER CHALLENGED ME FOR SAYING THAT HE HAD LOST HIS

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COOL IN WRITING A BITTER LETTER DENOUNCING THE AFRICAN

MINISTERS FOR PUBLICLY CRITICIZING HIS CHOICE OF DAVIS,  
OUR FORMER AMBASSADOR TO CHILE.

5. THERE FOLLOWED AN HOUR OF CONFRONTATION VASTLY DIFFERENT  
FROM THE CHIT-CHAT ONE USUALLY MUST SUFFER AT EMBASSY  
DINNERS.

6. "I AM OBLIGATED TO DEFEND DAVIS," KISSINGER ARGUED.  
"THE INTEGRITY OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE IS AT STAKE. IF I  
WITHDREW DAVIS'S NAME NOW HE WOULD BECOME UNACCEPTABLE  
IN MOST COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD AND THE CAREER OF AN  
EXCELLENT MAN WOULD BE RUINED."

7. KISSINGER DENIED REPORTS THAT HE SOUGHT TO REPLACE  
DONALD EASUM WITH DAVIS BECAUSE EASUM HAD BEEN TOO OUT-  
SPOKEN AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. HIS ONLY REASON FOR  
REPLACING EASUM, THE SECRETARY SAID, WAS THAT SOME TIME  
AGO HE REALIZED HE HAD NO AFRICAN POLICY AND NO LATIN  
AMERICAN POLICY, AND HE WANTED TO "SHAKE UP BOTH  
BUREAUS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM."

8. WHILE THE SHAKEUP HAS BEEN MOVING ALONG IN LATIN  
AMERICA, KISSINGER SAID HE FELT ESPECIALLY BAD THAT  
AFRICA HAD BEEN NEGLECTED--MOSTLY BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN  
TOO BUSY DEALING WITH OTHER MORE PRESSING MATTERS.

9. KISSINGER SAID HE FIRST OFFERED THE AFRICAN POST TO  
JOHN RINEHART (SIC), A BLACK OFFICER WHO HAS RECENTLY  
BEEN AMBASSADOR TO NIGERIA AND HAS BEEN NAMED ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS. RINEHART  
TURNED DOWN THE AFRICAN POST ON GROUNDS THAT HE DIDN'T  
THINK A BLACK OFFICER OUGHT TO TAKE ON THAT JOB,  
KISSINGER SAID.

10. THE SECRETARY SAID HE THEN TURNED TO DAVIS, WHOM  
HE REGARDS AS ONE OF THE FINEST MEN IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE.  
HE SAID IT NEVER OCCURRED TO HIM THAT DAVIS WOULD BE  
PILLORIED BECAUSE HE SERVED IN CHILE BECAUSE "DAVIS DID  
NOTHING WRONG" DURING THE PERIOD WHEN THE MARXIST REGIME  
OF SALVADOR ALLENDE WAS OVERTHROWN.  
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11. KISSINGER WAS FRANK IN ADMITTING THAT "THE WHOLE  
THING WAS HANDLED BADLY." HE CONCEDED STATE SHOULD HAVE  
BEEN MORE AWARE OF AFRICAN PARANOIA WHERE ANYTHING THAT  
SMACKS OF "CIA INTERVENTION" IS CONCERNED. HE CONCEDED  
THAT HE SHOULD HAVE CALLED IN THE AFRICAN AMBASSADORS AND  
TOLD THEM WHAT HE WAS TRYING TO DO. HE SHOULD HAVE SAID  
TO THEM: "BESIDE ME IS NATHANIEL DAVIS. HE IS NO

OGRE, NO CIA ASSASSIN. JUST A GOOD, TOUGH OFFICER WHO WILL END THE ERA OF NEGLECT OF AFRICA." THIS COULD HAVE HEADED OFF THAT MEETING IN ADDIS ABABA WHERE THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY TRIED, IN EFFECT, TO DECLARE A WASHINGTON-BASED STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICER PERSONA NON GRATA.

12. KISSINGER WOUND UP THAT DINNER CONFRONTATION WITH A DECISION TO ASK HIS DEPUTY (KISSINGER LEFT FOR THE MIDEAST THE NEXT DAY) TO MEET WITH ALL THE AFRICAN AMBASSADORS AND EXPLAIN WHAT THE DAVIS APPOINTMENT WAS SUPPOSED TO DO. AND WHEN HE GETS BACK, HE SAYS, HE PERSONALLY WANTS TO SAY TO THE AMBASSADORS: "WATCH US FOR A YEAR. IF DAVIS AND I HAVEN'T MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN RELATIONS WITH AFRICA, THEN CRITICIZE US."

13. THOUGH THE GESTURE COMES LATE, IT IS RIGHT. AND IT TAKES A SPECIAL MEASURE OF STATESMANSHIP FOR KISSINGER TO MAKE IT. IT WILL TAKE THE SAME HIGH STATESMANSHIP FOR AFRICAN MINISTERS TO SAY: "FAIR ENOUGH. WE DON'T WANT DAVIS'S SCALP. WE WANT A POSITIVE POLICY TOWARD AFRICA. WE'LL TAKE YOUR WORD, AND WE'LL JUDGE DAVIS-- AND YOU--BY WHAT HE DOES." (END TEXT.) INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE055950  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** PDENNIS:LM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750105-0937  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750357/aaaabyww.tel  
**Line Count:** 138  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN PA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** woolflhd  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 SEP 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <31 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS MATERIAL  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** ASWAN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006